

REMARKS

Applicants kindly request the amendments to Specification be entered. The first amendment adds the priority claim. No new matter is being added. Two of the amendments make the Specification comply with USPTO rules by deleting two trademarks. Use of these trademarks was not vital to the application and deletion of the trademarks does not take away from the meaning of the application. The other amendments add SEQ ID numbers to the Specification. No new matter is being added.

Applicants kindly request the cancellation of Claims 21, and 24-30. Applicants are also requesting the amendment of Claims 1-5, 7, 10-12, 14-19, and 22-23 in order to bring the claims into compliance with U.S. practice and to more clearly define the scope of some of the claims. Applicants are requesting the addition of new Claims 31-34. New Claims 31-32 are similar to some of the cancelled portions of Claims 18 and 19. New Claims 33-34 cover methods which are described throughout the specification and are based on cancelled Claim 25. No new matter is added.

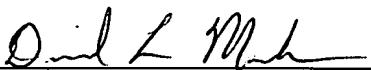
Applicant authorizes the Commissioner to charge all fees due to Deposit Account 19-0134. Applicant also requests that all correspondence be directed to the address associated with Customer Number 001095 which is currently as follows:

Novartis
Corporate Intellectual Property
One Health Plaza, Building 104 Florham Park
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Any questions or issues can be directed to the below signed attorney at this address. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis
Corporate Intellectual Property
One Health Plaza, Building 104
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080
(862) 778-7922



David L. Marks
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 37,881

Date: January 11, 2005